

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests further examination and reconsideration in view of the above amendments and the arguments set forth below. Claims 1-35 were previously pending in this application. Within the Office Action, Claims 1-3, 8-10 and 29-35 have been rejected, Claims 4-7, 11-13, 15 and 16 have been objected to and Claims 14 and 17-28 have been allowed. By the above amendment, Claims 1, 3, 5-7, 11-13, 15, 20-22 and 29-35 have been amended and Claim 4 has been canceled. Accordingly, Claims 1-3 and 5-35 are currently pending.

Objections To The Claims

Within the Office Action, Claims 15 and 16 have been objected to because of certain informalities. Specifically, regarding Claim 15, it is stated within the Office Action that Claim 15 is a duplicate of Claim 3. By the above amendment, Claim 15 has been amended to be dependent on Claim 14.

For at least these reasons, it is requested that these objections be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Within the Office Action, Claims 29-35 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. By the above amendments, Claims 29-35 have been amended to be directed to a computer system comprising a computer and a computer program executing on the computer. Accordingly, Claims 29-35 are directed to statutory subject matter.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Within the Office Action, Claims 1-3, 9 and 10 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,621,772 to Maturi et al. ("Maturi") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,233,393 to Yanagihara et al. ("Yanagihara"). Within the Office Action, Claim 8 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Maturi in view of Yanagihara and in further view of U.S. Patent No. 6,573,946 to Gryskiewicz ("Gryskiewicz").

Within the Office Action, Claims 4-7 and 11-13 have been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. It is stated within the Office Action that Claims 4-7 and 11-13 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. By the above amendment, the independent Claim 1 has

been amended to include the limitations from the objected to Claim 4. Accordingly, as indicated within the Office Action, the independent Claim 1 is allowable.

Claims 2, 3 and 5-10 are all dependent on the independent Claim 1. Since independent Claim 1 is allowable, Claims 2, 3 and 5-10 are all also allowable as being dependent on an allowable base claim.

By the above amendment, the objected to Claim 11 has been amended into independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, as indicated within the Office Action, the independent Claim 11 is allowable.

Claims 12 and 13 are both dependent on the independent Claim 11. Since independent Claim 11 is allowable, Claims 12 and 13 are both also allowable as being dependent on an allowable base claim.

Allowable Subject Matter

Within the Office Action, it is indicated that Claims 14 and 17-28 are allowable. The Applicants have reviewed the statement of reasons for allowance included with the Office Action. The Applicants do not believe that patentability for this application is limited to the stated reasons included within the reasons for allowance.

For the reasons given above, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the pending claims are now in condition for allowance, and allowance at an early date would be greatly appreciated. If the Examiner should have any questions or comments, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (408) 530-9700 to discuss the same so that any outstanding issues can be expeditiously resolved.

Respectfully submitted,
HAVERSTOCK & OWENS LLP

Dated: October 13, 2006

By: Jonathan O. Owens
Jonathan O. Owens
Reg. No. 37,902
Attorneys for Applicants

- 10 -

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR § 1.8(a))
I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Date: 10/13/06 By: [Signature]